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Sri K. V. VEMA REDDI :—" Relief so far provided is inadequate in view of the magnitude of the suffering of the people in the famine affected areas of Anantapur district. Will the Government increase the grants so as to give adequate relief to the famine affected areas?"

The Hon. Sri N. SANKARA REDDI :—" The Collector has been asked to report whether the distress is still continuing. On receipt of his report I think the question will be considered."

Sri T. NAGI REDDI :—" The Government seem to be considering whether there is famine or not in Anantapur district. Government themselves admitted on the floor of this House on a previous occasion answering a supplementary question that there was acute famine in Kadiri, Dharmavaram and Penukonda taluks and in certain other parts of the district also. So the sum now granted, namely, Rs. 2 lakhs is only a drop in the ocean. Will the Government therefore consider increasing this grant so that more relief works may be provided?"

The Hon. Sri N. SANKARA REDDI :—" Sir, I did not mean there was no famine in other areas in Anantapur district. But Government want to know whether there is distress in the area in which the works were started by the District Board to give grants to those works which were started already."

Sri T. NAGI REDDI :—" I am sorry, Sir, the Hon. Minister has made the matter still worse by saying that the Government are not aware of famine in other areas. I want to know what exactly the Hon. Minister means."

Mr. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member has misunderstood the answer."

Control and management of the waters of the big tank at Badvel, Cuddapah district.

* 389 *Q.*—

Mr. SPEAKER :—" The question and answer will be printed in the proceedings as the hon. Member Sri V. Chidanandam is not in his seat."

Sri V. CHIDANANDAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether he has received my letter, dated four months back asking for information about the taking over by the Public Works Department of the control of the big tank of Badvel and water management under the same big tank in Cuddapah district from the Revenue Department?

The Hon. Sri N. RANGA REDDI :—" Petitions from the hon. Member requesting that the orders of Government issued in July 1948 vesting the control of distribution in the Public Works Department should be given effect to were

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received but no information on the subject was asked for by him. The question whether the orders should stand or be cancelled is under examination."

Supply of electricity to Visakhapatnam town.

* 390 Q.—SRI K. GOVINDA RAO (on behalf of Sri M. Veerabhadram): Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Visakhapatnam Municipality asked the Government for a loan or grant of Rs. 20,000 for lighting purposes in the town; and

(*b*) what was the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" (*a*) An application for a loan of Rs. 20,000 for the purpose was received.

" (*b*) The Municipal Council was informed that in view of the prevailing financial stringency, provision for the loan could not be made in the State Budget for 1953–54."

Quantity of ammonium sulphate damaged during the cyclone in Tanjore district.

* 391 Q.—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state the total number of bags of ammonium sulphate damaged during the recent cyclone in Nagapattinam harbour in Tanjore district?

THE HON. DR. R. NAGAN GOUDA :—" Six thousand and twenty-one bags."

SRI K. ARANGANATHAN :—" May I know the loss incurred by the Government?"

THE HON. DR. R. NAGAN GOUDA :—" Rs. 2,76,213-6-0."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" In view of the fact that so many bags of ammonium sulphate were lost, due to cyclone, did the Government take proper steps to reimburse the loss in the sense of making ammonium sulphate available to agriculturists in that district?"

THE HON. DR. R. NAGAN GOUDA :—" We have enough stock of ammonium sulphate, Sir."

SRI K. R. VISWANATHAN :—" May I know whether the damage was due to natural causes or due to the carelessness of the officers concerned?"

THE HON. DR. R. NAGAN GOUDA :—" They were stored in the Harbour godowns and were in the charge of the clearing and forwarding agents. Because of the cyclone one of the godowns was inundated and so some of the ammonium sulphate was dissolved and lost."